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**TO:**

Name: Examiner B. Snow  
Firm: Patent & Trademark Office  
Fax No.: 703-872-9302

**Subject:**  
USSN: 09/921,844, filed Aug. 3, 2001  
Applicant: Gary K. Michelson  
For: SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE  
CONFIGURATION  
Our Ref: 101.0084-01000  
Customer No. 22882

**FROM:**

Name: Amedeo F. Ferraro, Esq.  
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No. of Pages (including this): 5  
Date: April 8, 2003

Confirmation Copy to Follow: No

APR 08 2003  
**GROUP 3700**

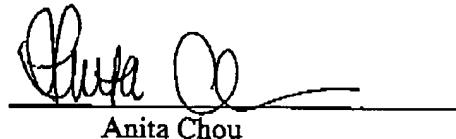
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Gary K. Michelson, M.D. )  
Serial No.: 09/921,844 ) Group Art Unit: 3738  
Filed: August 3, 2001 ) Examiner: B. Snow  
For: SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE )  
CONFIGURATION )

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

In response to the Office Communication dated March 12, 2003 and further to the Reply to Restriction Requirement dated January 28, 2003, the following remarks are submitted:

**REMARKS**

In the Office Communication of March 12, 2003, the Examiner objected to Applicant's Reply to Restriction Requirement filed January 28, 2003 (the "January reply") as not being fully responsive to the prior action. The Examiner stated that Applicant did not specifically point out the support for each individual new claim for newly added claims 207-254. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's contention and submits that the January reply was fully responsive.

In the January reply, Applicant provided support for all newly added claims to facilitate the Examiner's review of the claims. Specifically, Applicant stated:

Support for dependent claims 207-209, 213-215, and 255 is found at least in the

Reply to Office Communication 4-8-03

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